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*Souvenirs et Fragments pour servir aux Mémoires de ma Vie et de mon Temps, par le Marquis de Bouillé (Louis Joseph Amour), 1769-1812.* Publiés pour la Société d'Histoire Contemporaine par P.-L. DE KERMAINGANT. Tome III., Mars 1806-Novembre 1812. (Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils. 1911. Pp. xlv, 625.)

THIS volume forms the conclusion of the *Souvenirs* of Bouillé. (For the reviews of the first and second volumes see the *AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW*, XII. 924 and XV. 413.) It contains the editor's preface, based, to a considerable extent, upon unpublished material in the archives of the Bouillé family. With the three volumes before us, we are able to reach some definite conclusion concerning the time of writing. The work was dictated by the Marquis de Bouillé and was begun August 8, 1828. The first volume, containing portions of the marquis's recollections already made public, was dictated in 1828 and 1829; the second volume occupied the years 1830, 1831, 1832; and the third was finished, evidently, in 1834. His public career ended in 1812, and he referred at the close of the last volume (III. 572) to "les faits publics qui se sont passés . . . pendant une période de vingt-deux ans déjà écoulés depuis que je ne suis plus, pour ainsi dire, qu'un assistant à la vie". As documentary evidence, this last volume is more valuable than its predecessors, as it is little more than a redaction of very full notes, or journals, written at the time of the events described. It covers the period from March, 1806, to November, 1812, describing in detail the campaigns in southern Italy, Poland, Silesia, and Spain in which Bouillé took part. He did not attempt to describe the operations as a whole, but confined himself chiefly to matters with which he was personally concerned. The chapter on the campaign in the kingdom of Naples was written, Bouillé tells us (III. I, note), from notes taken during the campaign and written up in 1807. The campaigns of Poland and Silesia, also based upon notes, had been redacted in 1808, those of the years 1808, 1809, 1810, 1811, and 1812 were, according to Bouillé (III. 163, note) written by him, up to the taking of Granada, while he was in the army and afterwards edited under his dictation, from his notes and journal of the operations of the army, and terminated January 3, 1819, in the form in which they have been published. When the rest of the volume was edited he does not tell us, but it is very evident that it too was based upon very detailed notes taken in the field. The military historian of the Napoleonic period can study this volume with profit. He will find in it interesting observations on the conditions of the country in which the campaigns took place, on the composition and activities of the army, on the characteristics of the Napoleonic generals and the weaknesses of the Napoleonic system. Not the least interesting part of the volume is that dealing with the personal fortunes of Bouillé. When he returned to the French army he was given the rank of major, a grade lower than that held before his departure

from France. One follows with interest his struggle to better his condition, to rise to the rank of general. We see the Napoleonic army through the eyes of a soldier of the *ancien régime*. Confident in his own ability, Bouillé attributes his slow advance to the jealousy of those above him in rank; he is given no opportunity to distinguish himself, or when he does distinguish himself his deeds pass unrecorded or unrewarded. His superior may act upon his advice, but he receives no credit for the suggestion. Only after three years of campaigning, in 1809, is he made colonel—the rank he held in the English army—and in 1810 brigadier general. The loss of his sight, in October, 1812, forced him to abandon the army, a disappointed man. "I have almost never been able to be what I might have been and wished to be. . . I have not been appreciated", he exclaimed later. "Retenons ce mot", writes M. Kermain-gant, the editor of the *Mémoires*, "il aide à comprendre l'esprit dans lequel ont été écrits les *Souvenirs*; il en donne pour ainsi dire la clé."

FRED MORROW FLING.

*La Première Commune Révolutionnaire de Paris et les Assemblées Nationales.* Par P. LACOMBE, Inspecteur Général Honoraire des Bibliothèques et des Archives. (Paris: Hachette et Cie. 1911. Pp. xiii, 389.)

It is with a feeling of disappointment that one concludes the reading of M. Lacombe's volume, notwithstanding its excellent qualities. This is not due to the restricted scope of the subject, for the relations between the Commune of August 10 and the two national assemblies, the Legislative and the Convention, during the period closing with the election of a new municipality, are sufficiently complex and interesting to invite extended treatment. The trouble is that while the author quotes many words which the speakers of the Commune uttered, and describes some things which the Commune did, he leaves the Commune itself too much in the shadow. Only towards the close of the volume does it become apparent that Paris is not united, and that, for example, the Bureau and the Council General are bitterly opposed to one another. Not even then does M. Lacombe give us any detailed information upon the nature and extent of these divisions, so that we are obliged to study a controversy between two parties one of which remains, as it were, screened from our gaze. Of course, details about the Legislative Assembly or the Convention are not required, but the Commune of August 10 has not been treated adequately, except so far as Mortimer Ternaux has described it in his *Histoire de la Terreur*, and his description cannot be considered sympathetic. After M. Sagnac's careful treatment of August 10 in his *Chute de la Royauté* the way was open for a similar handling of the difficult period that follows.

In his study of the subject M. Lacombe has purposely limited himself to the analysis and interpretation of speeches. He believes no sufficient effort has been made to penetrate to the real testimony which the